BEFORE THE STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 2015-3 OAH No. 2014100430

CHRISTIAN PONCE aka CRISTIAN PONCE 3756 Dalton Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90018

Field Representative License No. FR 40682

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Structural Pest Control Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on

May 29, 2015

It is so ORDERED April 29, 2015

FOR THE STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

- 11		
1	Kamala D. Harris	
2	Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO	
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General CHRISTINE J. LEE	
4	Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 282502	
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7	Attorneys for Complainant	
8	BEFORE THE	
	STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL BOARD DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
9	STATE OF C	CALIFORNIA
10	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2015-3 OAH No. 2014100430
11	CHRISTIAN PONCE	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
12	aka CRISTIAN PONCE 3756 Dalton Avenue	DISCIPLINARY ORDER
13	Los Angeles, CA 90018	. 1
14	Field Representative License No. FR 40682	
15	Respondent.	
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17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-	
18	entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:	
19	PAF	CTIES
20	1. Susan Saylor ("Complainant") is the Registrar/Executive Officer of the Structural	
21	Pest Control Board. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in	
22	this matter by Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General of the State of California, by Christine J. Lee,	
23	Deputy Attorney General.	
24	2. Respondent Christian Ponce, also known as Cristian Ponce ("Respondent") is	
25	representing himself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to be represented	
26	by counsel.	
27	3. On or about August 30, 2006, the Structural Pest Control Board issued Field	
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Representative License No. FR 40682 to Respondent. The Field Representative License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2015-3 and will expire on June 30, 2015, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

- 4. Accusation No. 2015-3 was filed before the Structural Pest Control Board (Board),
 Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation
 and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on August 13,
 2015. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 2015-3 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2015-3. Respondent has also carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2015-3.
- 10. Respondent agrees that his Field Representative License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

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CONTINGENCY

- Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Structural Pest Control Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 12. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 13. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Field Representative License No. FR 40682 issued to Respondent is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions.

1. Actual Suspension. Field Representative License No. FR 40682 issued to

Respondent Christian Ponce is suspended for (10) ten consecutive days, beginning the effective date of the decision.

- 2. Obey All Laws. Respondent shall obey all Federal, State and Local laws along with all laws and rules relating to the practice of structural pest control.
- 3. Quarterly Reports. Respondent shall file quarterly reports with the Board during the period of probation.
- 4. **Tolling of Probation.** Should Respondent leave California to reside outside this state, Respondent must notify the Board in writing of the dates of departure and return. Periods of residency or practice outside the state shall not apply to reduction of the probationary period.
- 5. **Notice to Employers.** Respondent shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case no. 2015-3 and the terms, conditions and restriction imposed on Respondent by said decision.

Within 30 days of the effective date of this decision, and within 15 days of Respondent undertaking new employment, Respondent shall cause his/her employer to report to the Board in writing acknowledging the employer has read the decision in case No. 2015-3.

- 6. Notice to Employees. Respondent shall, upon or before the effective date of this decision, post or circulate a notice to all employees involved in structural pest control operations which accurately recite the terms and conditions of probation. Respondent shall be responsible for said notice being immediately available to said employees. "Employees" as used in this provision includes all full-time, part-time, temporary and relief employees and independent contractors employed or hired at any time during probation.
- 7. Completion of Probation. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license/certificate will be fully restored.
- 8. Violation of Probation. Should Respondent violate probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order which was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation is filed against Respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

- 9. Random Inspections. Respondent shall reimburse the Board for one (1) random inspection not to exceed \$125.00 per inspection per quarter by Board specialists during the period of probation.
- 10. Prohibited from Serving as Officer, Director, Associate, Partner or Qualifying Manager. Respondent is prohibited from serving as an officer, director, associate, partner, qualifying manager or branch office manager of any registered company during the period that discipline is imposed on Field Representative License No. FR 40682.
- 11. No Interest In Any Registered Company. Respondent shall not have any legal or beneficial interest in any company currently or hereinafter registered by the Board.
- 12. Cost Recovery. Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of \$4,860.00. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term. Respondent can arrange with the Board to make monthly payments. Probation shall not be terminated until all costs are paid in full.
- Respondent will be required as a condition to the restoration of Field Representative License No. FR 40682, to file a surety bond in the sum of \$2,500.00 no later than the last day of suspension. Respondent shall post such bond with the Registrar for the duration of the probationary period.
- shall provide proof to the Board of completion of eight (8) hours of continuing education courses approved by the Board, including two (2) hours of rules and regulations, two (2) hours branch 1 technical and four (4) general. These courses cannot be used towards renewal of Field Representative License No. FR 40682. Should Respondent fail to submit proof to the Board of completion of the eight (8) hours of continuing education prior to the effective date of the decision, it shall be considered a violation of probation and Field Representative License No. FR 40682 shall be suspended until proof is provided to the Board.
 - 15. Citation and Fine. Respondent shall pay citation and fine number SP 2013-175

issued by the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner's Office in the amount of \$800 prior to the effective date of the decision.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Field Representative License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Structural Pest Control Board.

DATED: 3-11-15

CHRISTIAN PONCE Respondent

ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Structural Pest Control Board.

Dated: 3/11/15

Respectfully submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General

CHRISTINE J. LEE
Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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